2018 California Legislative Update: Energy
For full context and bill language, please refer to
leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

**AB 262 | Public contracts: bid specifications: Buy Clean California Act**

- Requires the state to evaluate greenhouse emissions of products used in public works projects.
- Acknowledges companies who have invested in emissions reduction technologies and practices and encourages other companies to take action and reduce emissions to become more competitive in the California bidding process.

**AB 2127 | Electric vehicle charging infrastructure: assessment**

- Requires the state to prepare and biennially update a statewide assessment of the electric vehicle charging infrastructure needed to support the levels of electric vehicle adoption required for the state to meet its goals of putting at least 5 million zero-emission vehicles on California roads by 2030 and of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030.
- Accelerates deployment of electric vehicles across the state by assessing the infrastructure needed for adoption.

**AB 3232 | Zero-emissions buildings and sources of heat energy**

- Requires the California Energy Commission to assess the potential for the state to reduce carbon pollution from residential and commercial buildings by 40 percent from 1990 levels by 2030.
- This would likely involve significant retrofitting of the existing building stock as well as mandated improvements for new construction.

**SB 100 | The 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2018**

- Requires the state to purchase 100 percent of total retail sales of electricity from eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources by 2045.

**SB 237 | Electricity: direct transactions**

- Expands direct access energy service by an additional 7,500 MW for non-residential customers.
- Provides non-residential customers with expanded access and opportunity for purchasing renewables from non-IOU sources.

**SB 465 | Property Assessed Clean Energy Program: wildfire safety improvements**

- Enacts the Wildfire Safety Finance Act, which allows Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing to be used for fire hardening.
- Allows PACE providers to bundle fire safety and energy services.

**SB 700 | Self-generation incentive program**

- Extends the collection for the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) to December 31, 2024 which provides customer rebates for installing energy storage systems.
- Requires the commission to adopt requirements for energy storage systems to ensure that eligible energy storage systems reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases.
Emergencies: Office of Emergency Services: guidelines: alert and warning systems

- Tasks California Office of Emergency Services with statewide alert guidelines to develop an alert and warning training for cities and counties.
- Encourages communities to have individual resilience and special districts to prepare for disasters and grid resilience.

Wildfires

- Appropriates Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds (GGRF) dollars for wildfire prevention, including funding for forest health, fire prevention, and fuel reduction.
- Allows IOUs to issue cost-recovery bonds, to be repaid by charges on customers electric bills, with the approval of the California Public Utilities Commission.

General Plans

- Mandates a minimal eight-year refresh of municipal general plans to take climate adaption and resiliency strategies into account.
- Allows cities and counties to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.

Regional Climate Collaborative Program: technical assistance

- Establishes climate collaboratives (sic) to assist under-resourced communities obtain state climate funding.
- Recognizes that under-resourced communities, rural, urban, and suburban, have a large potential to contribute to the state’s goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, transitioning away from fossil fuels, and reaping economic development and jobs through renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other sustainable infrastructure investments.

Energy: green electrolytic hydrogen

- Specifies green electrolytic hydrogen as one of these energy storage technologies to be targeted for increased use.
- Requires the California Public Utilities Commission, California Air Resources Board and California Energy Commission to consider green electrolytic hydrogen an eligible form of energy storage, and to consider other potential uses of green electrolytic hydrogen.

Low-emissions buildings and sources of heat energy

- Directs the California Public Utilities Commission to spend $50 million a year from cap-and-trade revenue to support two programs. The first of these, dubbed BUILD (Building Initiative for Low-Emissions Development), provides incentives to improve efficiency and carbon reduction practices for new construction. The second, dubbed TECH (Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating), provides incentives, as well as customer outreach and contractor training, for low-emissions space and water heating equipment such as heat pumps.
- Deploys $50 million annually to empower Californians to reduce energy costs, improve air quality, and cut climate pollution.